



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA, 33 NATIONAL HISPANIC GROUPS SIGN PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Outreach Agreements Designed to Help Hispanic Entrepreneurs

Washington, D.C.--Administrator Aida Alvarez, head of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today signed historic partnership agreements with 33 national Hispanic organizations at the White House.

"With these agreements today, Hispanic entrepreneurs have a seat at America's economic table," Administrator Alvarez said. **"This historic event is taking place in the same great room where the United Nations charter was signed. Today is another day for the history books."**

"The Hispanic community's economic empowerment movement starts here and now," said Massey Villarreal, Chair of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. **"And it took Administrator Aida Alvarez and SBA to make it happen."**

According to SBA, the number of Hispanic-owned businesses has skyrocketed by 230 percent from 1987 to 1997, to an estimated 1.4 million businesses. Estimated revenues from these firms are \$184 billion annually. But there is plenty of room for growth.

According to Alvarez, Hispanics are one of the fastest growing groups in America representing well over 10 percent of the U.S. population. Yet, as a group, Hispanics own less than five percent of the nation's businesses. The partnership agreements state that SBA and each participant will combine their efforts to reach out to Hispanics who may benefit from SBA services and to help more small firms succeed.

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Administrator Alvarez added that today's event at the White House was significant because it illustrated the Clinton-Gore Administration's commitment to ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to benefit from the strongest U.S. economy in a generation. Alvarez said that continued economic growth depends on spreading the prosperity of Wall Street to Main Street, through outreach initiatives such as the 33 partnerships formed today.

SBA's Hispanic outreach effort is part of a broader initiative by Administrator Alvarez to reach New Markets—those markets that have been underserved—such as women and minorities, as well as businesses located in distressed rural and urban areas. The effort was developed in support of the President's desire to promote racial reconciliation through increased economic opportunity. The national partnership agreements also help forge stronger relationships between SBA district offices, local chambers, other SBA resource partners as well as the participating organization's local chapters.

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(List of the 33 Hispanic organizations participating in today's signing is attached)

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Organization	First Name	Last Name	Title	Address	City, State ZIP	Phone	Fax
American Association of Hispanic CPAs	Ismael "Milo"	Martinez	President	1100 Weston Center 112 E Pecan	San Antonio, TX 78205	210-340-8202	210-340-1940
American G.I. Forum	Francisco	Ivarra	Executive Dir.	109 N 22 nd	Seattle, WA 98133	206-364-5948	206-361-1341
Aspira Association	Ronald	Blackburn-Moreno	President	1444 Eye St. NW, Ste. 800	Washington, DC 20005	202-835-3600	202-835-3613
Cuban American National Council	Guarione	Diaz	President	1223 SW 4th St.	Miami, FL 33135	305-642-3484	305-642-9122
Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association	Jess	Quintero	Executive Dir.	6801 Cooridge Rd., Ste. 101	Camp Springs, MD 20748	301-449-7967	301-449-7077
Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association	Errol	Chavez	President	4560 Viewridge Av.	San Diego, CA 92123	619-616-4001	619-616-4240
Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities	Antonio	Flores	President	4204 Gardendale St., Ste.216	San Antonio, TX 78229	210-692-3805	210-692-0823
Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility	Rick	Bela	President	1730 Rhode Island Av. NW, Ste. 505	Washington, DC 20036	202-835-9672	202-457-0455
Hispanic Contractors of America	Paul	Rodriguez	Chairman	1224 E 9th St.	Kansas City, MO 64106	816-421-3626	816-421-1025
Hispanic Designers, Inc.	Penny	Harrison	President	1101 30th St. NW, Ste. 500	Washington DC 20007	202-337-9636	202-337-9635
Hispanic National Bar Association	Lillian G.	Apodaca	President	3908 Carlisle NE	Albuquerque, NM 97105	505-881-4545	505-889-0988
Latin American Management Association	Stephen	Denlinger	President	419 New Jersey Av. SE	Washington, DC 20003	202-546-3803	202-546-3807
Latino Peace Officers Association	Adrian	Garcia	President	705 Sue St.	Houston, TX 77009	713-247-1378	713-247-1340
League of United Latin American Citizens	Rick	Dovalina	President	1133 - 20th St. NW, Ste. 750	Washington, DC 20036	202-408-0060	202-408-0064
League of United Latin American Citizens	Brent	Wilkes		1133 - 20th St. NW, Ste. 750	Washington, DC 20036	202-408-0060	202-408-0064
MANA	Elisa	Sanchez	President	1725 K St. NW, Ste. 501	Washington, DC 20006	202-833-0060	202-496-0588
Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund	Antonia	Hernandez	President	634 S. Spring St.	Los Angeles, CA 90014	213-629-2512	213-629-0266
Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund	Teresa	Bustios		634 S. Spring St.	Los Angeles, CA 90014	213-629-2512	213-629-0266
National Association of Hispanic Firefighters	Ron	Morales	President	8204 Elmbrook Dr., Ste. 139	Dallas, TX 75247	214-631-0025	214-634-0768
National Association of Hispanic Publications	Andres	Tobar	Executive Dir.	528 - 14th St. NW, Ste. 652	Washington, DC 20045	202-662-7250	202-662-7254
National Association of Latino Elected Officials	Arturo	Vargas	Executive Dir.	5800 S Eastern Av. Ste. 365	Los Angeles, CA 90040	323-720-1932	323-720-9519
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women	Ivonne	Cervoni	President	5 Thomas Cir. NW	Washington, DC 20005	202-387-4716	NA
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women	Lisa	Torres		1550 Madruga Av. Ste. 325	Coral Gables, FL 33146	305-669-8600	305-669-8603
National Council of Hispanic Women	Velma	Montoya	President	7095 Hollywood Blvd. #520	Hollywood, CA 90028	213-427-8048	323-876-9969
National Council of La Raza	Raul	Yzaguirre	President	1111 - 19th NW, Ste. 1000	Washington, DC 20036	202-785-1670	202-776-1794
National Hispana Leadership Institute	Marisa	Rivera-Albert	President	1901 N Moore St.	Arlington, VA 22209	703-527-6007	703-527-6009
National Hispanic Builders, Inc.	Art	Delgado	President	31103 Rancho Viejo Rd., Ste. 2146	San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675	800-926-2757	949-487-0240
National Hispanic Builders, Inc.	Gary	Ayala		31103 Rancho Viejo Rd., Ste. 2146	San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675	800-926-2757	949-487-0240
National Image, Inc.	Ana	Villagra	Chair	3705 George Mason Rd. #206	South Falls Church VA 22041	703-671-0755	NA
National Latino Children's Institute	Rebeca	Barrera	Executive Dir.	1611 W. 6th St.	Austin, TX 78703	512-472-9971	512-472-5845
National Puerto Rican Coalition, Inc	Manuel	Mirabal	President	1700 K St. NW, Ste. 500	Washington, DC 20006	202-223-3915	202-429-2223
National Puerto Rican Forum, Inc.	Kofi A.	Boateng	Executive Dir.	31 E. 32rd St. 4 th Fl.	New York, NY 10016	212-685-2311	NA
National Society of Hispanic MBAs	Richard	Tobias	President	8204 Elmbrook, Ste. 235	Dallas, TX 75247	214-267-1622	312-214-2223
National Society of Hispanic MBAs	John	Honaman	Executive Dir.	8204 Elmbrook, Ste. 235	Dallas, TX 75247	214-267-1622	214-267-1626
Saludos Hispanos	Steve	Solomon	President	73-121 Fred Waring Dr., Ste. 100	Palm Desert, CA 92260	800-371-4456	760-776-1214
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Inc.	Leticia	Vidal	Executive Dir.	5400 E Olympic Blvd., Ste. 210	Los Angeles, CA 90022	323-725-3970	323-725-0316
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	Massey	Villarreal	Chair	1019 19th St. NW, Ste.200	Washington, DC 20036	202-842-1212	202-842-3221

United States Hispanic Leadership Institute	Juan	Andrade	President	431 S Dearborn St., Ste. 1203	Chicago, IL 60605	312-427-8683	312-427-5183
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute	Joanna	Martinez		431 S Dearborn St., Ste. 1203	Chicago, IL 60605	312-427-8683	312-427-5183
William C. Velasquez Institute	Antonio	Gonzalez	President	2914 N Main St. 2nd Fl.	Los Angeles, CA 90031	323-343-9299	323-343-9100